

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ARA-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07
NSAE-00 PA-02 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02 EB-08 L-03
SS-15 NSC-05 AGRE-00 COME-00 OES-07 DLOS-09 STR-05
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FM AMCONSUL HALIFAX

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1936 PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

USINT HAVANA

UNCLAS HALIFAX 0594

E O 11652: N/A

TAGS: EEWT PGOV CA CU

SUBJECT: NOVA SCOTIA PREMIER VISITS CUBA: PRESS REPORT

1. DEC 3 HALIFAX CHRONICLE-HERALD REPORTED DEPARTURE THAT DAY FOR CUBA OF A PROVINCIAL DELEGATION, HEADED BY NOVA SCOTIA PREMIER GERALD REGAN, FOR EXPLORATORY DISCUSSIONS ON TRADE AND INDUSTRIAL MATTERS. REGAN IS FIRST CANADIAN PROVINCIAL PREMIER TO BE INVITED TO MAKE OFFICIAL TRIP TO CUBA. HE AND HIS DELEGATION WILL SPEND ONE WEEK THERE AND WILL BE HOSTED BY CUBAN AMBASSADOR TO CANADA DURING THEIR STAY.

2. ACCOMPANYING REGAN IS HIS WIFE, THE PRESIDENT OF THE SYDNEY (NS) STEEL CORP, THE DIRECTOR OF LIVESTOCK SERVICES OF PROVINCIAL DEPT OF AGRICULTURE, THE DIRECTOR OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT OF PROVINCIAL DEPT OF FISHERIES, AND THE PROVINCIAL DIRECTOR OF PROTOCOL. THE DELEGATION WILL VISIT RAMON CASTRO S "VALLE LA PICADURA MODEL FARM" AND IT IS EXPECTED THAT THERE WILL BE DISCUSSIONS REGARDING A POSSIBLE INCREASE IN NS CATTLE SALES TO CUBA. DISCUSSIONS ARE ALSO UNCLASSIFIED

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EXPECTED ON POSSIBLE RAIL AND STEEL DEALS AS WELL AS THE MANUFACTURE OF CUBAN FISHING VESSELS IN NS. THERE WERE NO INDICATIONS AT THE TIME OF DEPARTURE OF A POSSIBLE MEETING WITH PRESIDENT FIDEL CASTRO.

3. ALTHOUGH DETAILS RELEASED ON DELEGATION S ITINERARY ARE NOT TIED DOWN TO SPECIFICS, MR REGAN

IS EXPECTED TO TOUR HAVANA HARBOR WITH VICE MINISTER MARGOLLES AND TAKE LUNCH ABOARD ONE OF CUBA S MAJOR FISHING VESSELS. IT IS ALSO EXPECTED THAT HE WILL HAVE DISCUSSIONS WITH OFFICIALS ON MATTERS PERTAINING TO TOURISM AND INTERNATIONAL TRADE. HE CAUTIONED BEFORE HIS DEPARTURE THAT IT WOULD BE UNREALISTIC TO EXPECT ANY MAJOR ANNOUNCEMENTS TO COME AS A RESULT OF HIS TRIP.

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